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BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR

1966

BRAINTREE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. C. R. C. RAINSFORD, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. ORGAN, M.A.P.H.I., CERT.R.S.I. (Meat and other Foods)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

W. R. GAGE, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector

**D. W. HARPER, M.A.P.H.I., Dip., Meat and other Foods
(until 30th November, 1966).**

Meat Inspector

G. M. PROUD, M.R.SAN.A.

Technical Assistant and Assistant Housing Officer

R. F. TWITCHETT

Senior Clerical Assistant

Mrs. V. T. DEBBAGE

Junior Clerk

Miss S. D. FEW

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,

Town Hall,

Braintree.

October, 1967

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting for your information my annual report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the district.

As you know the personal health services are controlled by the Essex County Council and I am grateful to Dr. Miller Wood the Area Medical Officer for providing statistics with regard to clinics, etc.

Vital Statistics

The Registrar General's estimated population is 24,110 a decrease of 90 from the previous year.

The birth rate and the death rate are slightly down on the 1965 figures but the difference is only marginal and of no significance.

Infant deaths numbered 4 and the causes of death were Prematurity 2 and Bronchopneumonia 2.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases

One hundred and eighteen cases were notified, the lowest figure since 1960. Ninety-eight of these were of measles.

There is now an effective vaccine against measles but it has not been used to any extent in this country. The length of the immunity conferred by this vaccine cannot be known for some years so I think it is right that the vaccine should be introduced with caution. To protect our children in the 5-9 age group would hardly be an advantage if it meant an increase in the number of cases in the 10-14 group.

Immunisation and Vaccination

There is no doubt that immunisation and vaccination against whooping cough, diphtheria, poliomyelitis and smallpox have saved thousands of lives and much suffering and I recommend all parents to see that their children receive this protection either from their family doctors or at the Essex County Council Clinics.

Details of the work done will be found later in this report.

Environmental Hygiene

The Cornish Hall End Sewage Scheme was completed during the year and is functioning very well.

Good progress was made on the Hatfield Peverel and Terling Scheme.

A full report on the unsatisfactory drainage of Panfield was submitted to the Committee in March 1966. As a result certain limited work was carried out to improve conditions until the full drainage scheme can be carried out. I am glad to be able to report that the scheme for a complete sewerage system and sewage disposal plant for Panfield and Rayne has now been prepared and approved by the Ministry. There is still a considerable amount of paper work to be done but I hope we may soon see the contractors at work.

The Section on housing shows that the Council completed 79 new houses compared with 48 in 1965.

In addition blocks of flats were under construction at Black Notley, Panfield, Kelvedon and Cressing.

National Assistance Act, Section 47

It was necessary to obtain a Magistrate's Order to remove to hospital one old lady who was living alone.

My thanks go to the Chairman and members of the Committee and to my colleagues in the Braintree Rural District Offices for their help and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

C. R. C. RAINSFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	59,234
Population (Registrar General's estimate)	...	...	...	...	...	24,110
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books	...	...	...	...	...	7,466
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	£669,624
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£2,675 (Estd.)

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate	375	192	183	
Illegitimate	22	16	6	
Total live births —	397			
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	16.5
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	...	...	5.5
Birth rate corrected by comparability figure of 1.04	...	...	...	17.2
Birth rate for England and Wales per 1,000 population	...	...	...	17.7

STILL BIRTHS:

	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate	4	2	2	
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	...	...	...	12.4
Rate per 1,000 total births England and Wales	...	...	...	15.4
Total live and still births—402				

INFANT DEATHS:

Deaths of infants under 1 year—	Total	Male	Female	
Legitimate	3	2	1	
Illegitimate	1	1	—	
Total infant deaths—4				

INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	...	...	10.1
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	8.0
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	45.4
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	5.0
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	5.0
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still-births)	...	...	17.4
Infantile mortality for England and Wales per 1,000 live births	...	...	19.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY (including abortion)

Number of deaths	...	...	...	...	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births	...	...	...	...	Nil

DEATHS:

	Total	Male	Female	
	221	111	110	
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	9.2
Death rate corrected by comparability figure of 0.93	...	...	...	8.5
Death rate per 1,000 population England and Wales	...	...	...	11.7

All the above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General.

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES, 1966

The table below was compiled from figures supplied by the Registrar General and the Classification is given under the thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948.

			Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	—
8.	Measles	...	...	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	1
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	9
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	8	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	8	21
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	31	21
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	1	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	10	13
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	6	7
22.	Influenza	...	3	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	4	10
24.	Bronchitis	...	10	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	2	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	2	—
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	6	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	4	—
34.	All other accidents	...	3	—
35.	Suicide	...	—	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—

All Causes 111

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GENERAL PROVISIONS OF PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

(a) Under the control of the Essex County Council:—

(i) Child Welfare Clinics were held at the following Centres during the year:—

		Attendances		
COGGESHALL				
St. Peter's Room	1st & 3rd Tuesday	2.0	p.m.	687
School Clinic	2nd Monday	10.0	a.m.	146
CRESSING				
Mission Hall, Tye Green	4th Monday	2.0	p.m.	134
GREAT BARDFIELD				
Town Hall	1st Monday	2.0	p.m.	248
TERLING				
The New Village Hall	1st Tuesday	2.0	p.m.	279
HATFIELD PEVEREL				
Church Hall, Maldon Road	2nd & 4th Tuesday	2.0	p.m.	843
KELVEDON				
St. Mary's Hall	2nd & 4th Friday	2.30	p.m.	718
WETHERSFIELD				
Village Hall	3rd Monday	2.15	p.m.	322

(ii) Home Help Service:—

This useful service is administered from the Area Health Office, 75, Springfield Road, Chelmsford.

(iii) Ambulance Service:—

The Rural District of Braintree is served by the Ambulance Station, Braintree and Witham.

(iv) Laboratory Services:—

The Essex County Council provide a laboratory service which includes the bacteriological and chemical analysis of water samples, the chemical analysis of sewage effluents, the bacteriological examination of ice cream, and the examination of other foods for pathogenic organisms. These examinations are carried out by either the Counties Public Health Laboratories, Grays Inn Road, London, W.C.1., or the Public Health Laboratory, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, New London Road, Chelmsford.

(b) Under the control of the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board:—

(1) Chest Clinics:—

These are held twice weekly at St. Michael's Hospital, Braintree.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Diseases	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	...	—	—
Dysentery	...	—	—
Encephalitis	...	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	—	—
Erysipelas	...	—	—
Food Poisoning	...	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	...	5	—
Measles	...	98	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—
Paralytic Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	—	—
Scarlet Fever	...	2	—
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	6	2	—
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	7	—
 Totals ...	118	2	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE

Diseases	At all Ages	Under 1 Year	Age unknown										
			65 and Over	65-64	35-44	20-34	15-19	10-14	5-9	4	3	2	1
Diphtheria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Encephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Enteric Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Infective Hepatitis	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	98	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningoococcal Infection	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Non-Paralytic Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Scarlet Fever	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Totals	118	1	8	10	11	7	66	4	2	3	1	2	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1966

Diseases	Westhersfield	Terling	Stisted	Shalford	Great Saltinge	Bardfield Saltinge	Rayne	Pattiswick	Panfield	White Notley	Black Notley	Kevendon	Hatchfield Peverell	Fimchingfield	Ferrieng	Faulkbourne	Fairstead	Cressинг	Coggeshall	Bradwell	Great Bardfield	Total Notified	Totals	
Diphtheria
Dysentery
Encephalitis
Enteric Fever
Erysipelas
Food Poisoning
Infective Hepatitis
Measles
Meningococcal Infection
Pneumonia
Puerperal Pyrexia
Paralytic Poliomyelitis
Non-paralytic Poliomyelitis
Scarlet Fever
Tuberculosis, pulmonary
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary
Whooping Cough
Totals	118	5	—	3	7	—	1	3	—	48	15	6	1	4	—	2	—	17	1	—	5			

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases						Deaths					
	Pulmonary			Non-pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-pulmonary		
	M	F	1.	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	P
Under 1 year
1 "
2 years
3 "
4 "
5 - 9	1	...	...	...	...	...
10 - 14
15 - 19
20 - 24	1	...	...	...	...	...
25 - 34	1	...	...	...	...	...
35 - 44	1	...	...	...	...	...
45 - 54	1	...	...	...	...	...
55 - 64	1	...	...	...
65 and over	4	...	...	...
Age unknown
Totals	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Of these, 4 were cases re-notified on taking up residence in this District

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Primary Courses—

	By General Practitioners	By County Staff	Total
Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	173	123	296
Diphtheria & Tetanus	2	18	20
Diphtheria	—	2	2
Pertussis	—	—	—
Tetanus	10	76	86
Poliomyelitis	164	166	330
Smallpox	217	—	217
Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—
B.C.G.	—	76	76

Reinforcing Doses

Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus	65	5	70
Diphtheria and Tetanus	27	122	149
Diphtheria	4	100	104
Pertussis	—	50	50
Tetanus	15	158	173
Poliomyelitis	55	166	221
Smallpox	8	—	8
Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,
ST. PETER'S CLOSE,
BOCKING,
BRAINTREE.

August, 1967.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in submitting to you, this, my twentieth annual report on the Sanitary Circumstances of the District and the work of the Public Health Department.

The progress reported last year on the Hatfield Peverel/Terling, and Cornish Hall End (Finchingfield) sewerage schemes was well maintained, the latter being completed in the early part of the year. Progress in other parishes however has again been disappointing, only the Rayne and Panfield scheme reaching the stage of official investigation and approval in principle, by the Ministry.

Some progress was made with re-housing families from the Robinsbridge Road (Coggeshall) Clearance Area and also from the other two small Clearance Areas in Coggeshall. Unfortunately the type of dwellings provided on the Fabians Farm Site have proved to be of not much value in this re-housing operation and it has not been possible to clear as many as one would have wished.

Progress in initial inspections and maintenance of routine visits to premises falling within the scope of the Food Hygiene Regulations and The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, was satisfactory, and provided there are no staffing problems it should be possible to keep these up, something which has not been done with particular satisfaction in the past.

There is nothing outstanding to report on the collection of domestic refuse, but a proper scheme for the collection of trade refuse was instituted during the year. This met with some opposition from traders, who felt this should have been a rate-borne service. Considerable progress was made at the Beazley End pit in forming a new access at a low level in order that tipping could take place more in keeping with accepted standards. Unfortunately, following a very wet period which started in October, much of this good work was wasted and tipping had to be recommenced at the former high level.

The new office accommodation for the Department was completed towards the end of the year and should prove to be of considerable benefit to the staff in comfort and efficiency.

In conclusion, may I thank members for their continued interest and support; my fellow officers for their help and co-operation, and especially my own staff for their loyalty and manner in which they have carried out their duties throughout the year.

I am Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. ORGAN,
Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

WATER

Once again it is pleasing to report that the Public Water Supplies throughout the District have remained generally satisfactory both in quality and quantity. Constant check on the raw water from Terling (Swan Pond) was maintained as a routine precaution.

None of the waters is liable to have any plumbo solvent action.

Regular bacteriological and chemical examinations of raw water from the Council's Pumping Stations were carried out and all the water passing into supply from whatever source was bacteriologically examined at frequent intervals.

Eighteen samples in all were taken. Copies of typical reports on the analyses of the waters from five sources, Petches Bridge Waterworks, Coggeshall Waterworks, Terling Waterworks, the South Essex Water Company and Chelmsford R.D.C. will be found under the heading of individual works.

Periodic flushing of 'dead ends' was again maintained in an effort to prevent stagnation of water in mains.

All main water supplies in the District are subject to chlorination at the respective sources. In the case of the Council's undertakings gaseous chlorine is employed at Petches Bridge Waterworks and hypochlorite solution at Coggeshall and at Terling.

Apart from three small extensions to serve new housing estates there were no new main extensions during 1966.

The Council's Waterworks at Petches Bridge, Coggeshall and Terling continued to operate efficiently during the year.

At Petches Bridge one Turbine Pump was removed and reconditioned by the makers.

At Coggeshall Waterworks the modern electrically driven pumping equipment was commissioned in January, 1966 together with a new automatic chlorinator. This has resulted in much greater efficiency of operation at these works.

During the year a small electrically driven booster pump was installed at Finchingfield to improve the supply at Cornish Hall End.

Negotiations were continued during the year for the Council's Water Undertakings to be taken over by the Colchester Water Board.

Details of the functioning of each undertaking during 1966 follow under the headings (A) to (E).

Petches Bridge Waterworks (A)

Number of gallons pumped during the year ended 31st December, 1966	...	...	...	...	138,933,000
Average day's pumping	...	...	...	...	17.3 hours
Augmented supply from Dunmow Rural District				...	Nil

Analyst's report on a typical sample of this water.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and has an alkaline reaction. It is free from metals. The water is of very moderate hardness and there is no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic quality and of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Coggeshall Waterworks (B)

Number of gallons pumped during the year ended 31st December, 1966	...	...	...	...	24,970,000
Average day's pumping	...	...	...	...	9.7 hours

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance and of very satisfactory bacterial purity indicative of a wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Terling Waterworks (C)

Number of gallons pumped during the year ended 31st December, 1966	...	...	...	...	29,434,000
Average day's pumping	...	...	...	...	9 hours

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water.

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is very hard in character but otherwise contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It conforms to the highest standards of organic quality and is also of very satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

South Essex Water Company (D)

Total quantity of water received by this Council from the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1966 is as follows:-

Eastern Area

Augmented supply to Coggeshall, Kelvedon and Feering	149,356,000
Supply to Bradwell, Cressing, Stisted, Black Notley and White Notley	...
Supplied to B. & B.U.D.C. from Black Notley	Nil
Supplied to B. & B.U.D.C. from Cressing	Nil
Purchased from B. & B.U.D.C. for Cressing	Nil

Southern Area

Augmented supply to Hatfield Peverel, Terling and Fairstead	27,986,000
	177,342,000

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality, and is free from metals apart from a trace of zinc and a minute trace of iron. The water is very hard in character but it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of satisfactory organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

Supply from Chelmsford R.D.C. (E)

Total quantity of water received by this Council from Chelmsford R.D.C. for the year ended 31st March, 1966 was made up as follows:-

Ranks Green Extension, Fairstead	...	2,472,000
Fuller Street Extension, Fairstead	...	940,000
Cardfield Extension, Hatfield Peverel	...	770,000
Boreham End Extension, Hatfield Peverel	...	171,000
<hr/>		4,353,000

Analyst's Report on a typical sample of this water.

Satisfactory bacteriologically.

Number of new connections at A	...	41
Number of new connections at B and D	...	139
Number of new connections at C and E	...	10
<hr/>		190

SHALLOW WELL SUPPLIES

Only two public shallow well supplies were still in use at the end of the year as follows:-

Finchingfield	Two wells at Hawkins Harvest and at Ost End.
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DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

In the previous report some progress was reported on new schemes. Unfortunately this progress is very slow.

The Hatfield Peverel/Terling scheme, Contract No. 1, was completed during the latter part of the year and Contract No. 2 for the treatment works, etc. at Hatfield Peverel was commenced in September, 1966. At the end of the year good progress had been made on this contract and the works should be in operation before the end of 1967.

The Cornish Hall End scheme was completed in May, 1966 and some properties were immediately connected. However, by the end of the year there were still a number of houses in this area where main drainage facilities were available but which had not been connected.

Embargoes on further development involving discharge of additional sewage into existing systems continue at Coggeshall, Kelvedon and Hatfield Peverel and will be kept on until new treatment works are completed and in operation.

Conditions in those parishes where there are no modern main drainage facilities continue to deteriorate.

The official investigation into the scheme for the parishes of Rayne and Panfield was held late in the year and an approval in principle to the scheme was received. However, there still remains the preparation of all the necessary drawings, documents, etc., before final approval can be obtained.

The situation with regard to the various works is as follows:—

COGGESSHALL AND KELVEDON

Both these works and the adjacent pumping stations have been maintained with difficulty during the year. Their age and size in relation to the flow treated result in constant attention and expenditure, which must increase until they are replaced.

I regret to report yet again the very slow progress on the new scheme, which has not yet been submitted to the Minister for approval.

HATFIELD PEVEREL AND TERLING

These very old works continued to give partial treatment, which is all that can be achieved. The completion of the new scheme will enable this works to be abandoned.

WETHERSFIELD

This works continued to operate satisfactorily and all effluent samples were satisfactory.

WHITE NOTLEY

This works is grossly overloaded. Preparation of a scheme for enlargement was commenced during 1966 and it is anticipated that this will be submitted to the Ministry early in 1967.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection of Domestic Refuse

In spite of what the critics of Work Study may have to say, there can be little doubt that the introduction of this has gone a long way towards giving the residents of this District a better refuse collection service than they had previously enjoyed. Earlier difficulties regarding Bank and Annual Holidays appear to have been overcome and in the year under review these came and went almost unnoticed.

An early decision on whether or not to take back the collections in Cressing, the Notleys and Rayne, which are now carried out by the Braintree and Bocking Urban District Council, will be necessary if this is to be put into operation in April, 1968, since one year's notice to that Authority is necessary.

During the year one 35 cu. yd. ex-demonstration vehicle of a new type was acquired and a 50 cu. yd. model of the same make was ordered for delivery in April, 1967.

Trade Refuse

Following pressure from the District Auditor, trade refuse was collected from the 1st July on a re-chargeable basis as required by the Public Health Act, 1936. The basis for charging was 1/- per bin per week for all bins exceeding two in number from all premises where living accommodation was attached and the same charge for bins exceeding one from premises where there was no living accommodation.

As will probably be well imagined, the introduction of this scheme was full of problems and arguments, but generally it settled down well and was reasonably well accepted.

Whether or not the income derived is sufficient to cover additional administrative costs is a matter for conjecture!

Disposal of Refuse

All refuse from the Rural District continued to be disposed of in a former gravel pit at Beazley End. Although further improvements to the access were made during the year it was apparent that this would not be sufficient when the winter came, an assumption borne out in October when the access became a mud bath and tipping had to revert to the high level once more.

It is obvious that much more thought, time and money will have to be devoted to this problem.

There was no fly problem during the year--no doubt due to the poor summer.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS, 1966

Housing Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
Revis'ts and inspections of work in progress	...	...	...	...	...	...	289
Visits to premises and interviews with owners, builders, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
Visits and inspections re. Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	255
Visits re. Council House applications and exchanges	...	...	...	...	...	...	364
Visits and inspections prior to removals to Council Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	170
Visits and inspections following rent arrears and notices to quit	...	...	...	...	...	...	166
Visits re. overcrowding and permitted numbers	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Visits to Investigate Complaints	...	...	...	...	...	...	247
Notifiable Disease enquiries	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Infestations by insect pests	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Infestations by Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Visits to premises re. water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Visits to Waterworks and Public Pumps	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Water samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Visits to premises re. drainage to sewer	...	...	...	...	...	...	127
Drains inspected and tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Visits to Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Barber's Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Inspections at Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Inspections of Sewage Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Clean Air Act, 1956	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Inspections ref. Atmospheric Pollution	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Inspections of Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Inspections of Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Inspections of Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Inspections of Canteens including Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Inspection of Ice Cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Ice Cream Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Inspections of Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Inspections of Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Inspection of Pea Viners Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Inspections and visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	958
Inspections of Knacker's Yard	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Inspections Power (Factories Act, 1961)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Licensing Act, 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Waste Foods Order	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous visits and inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	381

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

The majority of inspections necessary under this legislation were completed during the year and notifications sent to employers of defects requiring attention.

No undue difficulties have been experienced in the administration of this Act, although lighting of premises presented some problems as no standards have been laid down.

Moveable Dwellings

One new site licence was issued under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, during the year, the number now registered being eleven.

No statutory action was found necessary in regard to these sites.

Atmospheric Pollution and Smoke Abatement

Once again there is little to report under this heading. Observations on the few industrial chimneys in the District showed little cause for complaint, apart from the odd occasion or so.

Vermin Infestation

Little action was necessary with regard to vermin. Five flea infestations were dealt with by the department, but no infestations of bed bugs were found.

Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises registered under this Act in the District and so far as can be ascertained no persons are operating in contravention of the Act.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses within the Rural District.

Rodent Control

There was no change in this service during the year and eradication or control of rats on domestic, business and agricultural properties proceeded without undue difficulty.

The prejudice against Warfarin mentioned in my previous report has been overcome to some degree by the use of a bait with a higher percentage of poison in it. This measure will not, however, completely solve this problem.

Factories

As in other years, information regarding premises falling within the scope of the Factories Act and of inspections made and action (if any) taken is given in tabular form and will be found on page 23.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961

Particulars of the premises registered by the Council under the Factories' Act, 1961, and of the inspections made are to be found as follows:—

(1) INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority ...	5	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	59	—	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	64	2	—	—

(II) Cases in which DEFECTS were found:—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted	
	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—	
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—	
(a) Insufficient ...	—	—	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—	
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Totals ...	—	—	—	—	—	

Part VIII. of the Act
OUTWORK
(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Making etc., Cleaning and Washing	4	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Wearing Apparel	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
All Others	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

HOUSING

The number of additional units of accommodation provided in the District during 1966 was 217, an increase of 14 on the previous year's figure.

Details are as follows:—

New Council Houses	...	...	...	79
Private Enterprise Houses	...	...	...	157
Conversion of other buildings	...	...	...	2
			—	238
Less: Five cases of reconditioning where units of accommodation were reduced				
Number of dwellings lost	...	...	5	
Sixteen properties were demolished			16	
		—	21	
		—	217	

At the end of the year there were 458 outstanding applications for housing accommodation a decrease of 62 on the previous year. The percentage of the total known to be in genuine and urgent need for re-housing is comparatively low, i.e. about 20%.

During the year the Council completed 79 new units of accommodation which was a considerable improvement on 1965. The housing programme for 1966 only allowed for a further 4 units in addition to the number outstanding from previous years.

Blocks of flatlets together with the associated new development were in process of construction at Black Notley and Panfield. The blocks of old persons flatlets at Kelvedon and Cressing were not completed. Development continued at the Fabian's Farm site in Coggeshall.

6 properties on the Robins Bridge Road Area at Coggeshall had been acquired at the end of the year, and negotiations were in hand regarding most of the remainder.

47 dwellings were modernised to varying degrees and of these 33 received assistance from the Council by way of either a Discretionary or Standard Improvement Grant.

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made during the year.

Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958

House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Housing Acts, 1961/1964

Figures for the year ending 31st December, 1966			Discretionary Grant Schemes	Standard Grant Schemes
(a) Number of Applications received	...	...	16	19
(b) Number of Applications approved by Council	...	...	16	19
(c) Number of Improved dwellings resulting from works at (b)	...	...	20	19
(d) Number of Improved dwellings completed	...	...	13	20
(e) Total amount involved in Grants approved		£6,448	£3,045	14. 9.
			£9,493	14. 9.
(f) Actual amount paid in respect of the Standard Grant Schemes completed at (d)	...	...	£3,279	3. 4.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply and Dairies

Eleven distributors and one dairy remain registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

All licences for Designated milks are now dealt with by the Essex County Council.

There were very few complaints regarding the keeping quality of milk or the cleanliness of bottles and these were of a very minor nature. The bacterial quality of milk supplied within the District can therefore be regarded as satisfactory.

Brucella Abortus

There were no fresh cases of Brucellosis notified as a result of samples of milk taken by the Essex County Council.

Sampling of a large herd found to be affected during the previous year, took place over a period extending from January to July. This consisted first of group sampling, followed by samples from individual cows in each group where evidence of Brucella had shown up on any of the various tests.

Unfortunately some tests proved far from conclusive; some guinea pigs died prematurely whilst under test; consequently a considerable amount of re-sampling was necessary.

Finally, in July, the infection was traced to two cows only, one of which was an old cow with a particularly good milk record, indicating that she had probably been a source of infection for quite some time.

Both cows were removed from the herd with the owner's co-operation.

Ice Cream Premises

No samples were taken during the year largely owing to the difficulty in obtaining a freezing medium for use in transit.

Meat Inspection

Tabular information on this service is given on the next page. The number of animals killed; the incidence of disease; and the amount of meat condemned varied only very slightly from last year.

There were no difficulties arising from the full implementation of 100% inspection as required by the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963. Hours of slaughter, now controlled, are felt to be reasonable and call for little work outside normal hours.

Periodical visits by inspectors of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food brought little adverse comment.

Full use was made of laboratory facilities to assist in identification of disease where doubt existed.

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Other Animals
Number Killed and Inspected	3,115	181	360	4,914	10,963	46	1	
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci								
Whole carcases con- demned	9	15	26	10	41	1	—	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	559	84	79	103	551	24	—	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Dis- eases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	18.23%	54.69%	29.16%	2.34%	5.30%	54.34%	—	
Tuberculosis only								
Whole carcases con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	207	—	—	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	1.88%	—	—	
Cysticercosis								
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrig- eration	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Generalised and total- ly condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Total quantities of Meat Condemned

Beef	Pork	Veal	Mutton	Horseflesh	Total
18,407	10,596	1,751	644	759	32,157

Food Hygiene Regulations

A table showing the number of premises of different types falling within the scope of these regulations and giving certain additional information as required by the Ministry of Health is set out overleaf:—

Routine inspections of food premises continued to be carried out with emphasis on those premises where open food is sold.

In addition to the butcher's meat previously detailed, the following foods were condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Tinned Foods

37 Tins of Meat	22 Tins of Fruit
32 Tins of Vegetables	3 Tins of Marmalade
1 Tin of Creamed Rice	1 Tin of Fruit Juice
1 Tin of Evaporated Milk	1 Tin of Steak & Kidney
48lbs. of Yorkshire Pudding Mixture	Pudding
	56lbs. of Dried Pasteurised Milk

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960

Number of Premises in district

1. Bakeries	...	...	...	7
2. Butchers	...	...	...	11
3. Catering Establishments		...	...	38
4. Ice Cream	...	...	...	3
5. Grocery and General Stores	...	...	...	66
6. Public Houses		...	...	69

	Complying with Regulation 16 (1)	Regulation 19 Applicable (2)	Complying with Regulation 19
Bakeries ...	6	7	7
Butchers ...	10	11	9
Catering Establishments	34	39	39
Ice Cream	3	1	1
Grocery and General Stores	49	61	53
Public Houses	41	65	64

(1) Provision of wash hand basin with hot and cold running water.

(2) Provision of sink with hot and cold running water.

